

M: 17-41-22

c. 1885

Nathan Johnson house(site)

Poolesville Vicinity

Private

This two story, frame house consisted of two rooms down and two up and was the home of a black landowning family. Near the house stood the small, one room post office for the Sugarland community, of which Nathan Johnson was postmaster.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Nathan Johnson House (Site) and Sugarland Post Office  
 AND/OR COMMON Site

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER South side of Sugarland Road

CITY, TOWN

PoolesvilleX VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☒ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Morris and Bertha LevinTelephone #: 649-1535

STREET &amp; NUMBER

10602 Amherst Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20902**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

courthouse land recordsLiber #: 540Folio #: 285

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

NONE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☒ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tilghman Lee remembers this house, which no longer stands as follows:

This was a two story frame house with two rooms down and two up. The gable end faced north toward Sugarland Road, and had one window on each floor. The front length was oriented towards the east, and contained one door with one window into each of the two rooms. The front door opened into the sitting room. Another door opened into the kitchen in the southern gable end. The windows were the same as the one in the other houses, and a boxed stairway ascended from the kitchen into the rooms above, which were used as bedrooms.

Lee also recalls that the post office for the Sugarland community stood on the Nathan Johnson property. It consisted of one room. The postman brought the mail by horseback to Nathan Johnson in a locked bag from Poolesville and Johnson, who kept the key to the letter bag, distributed the letters to the community from this office. Letters were also deposited here, and picked up by the postman and carried to Poolesville. This continued until Rural Free Delivery.

Note: Interview with Tilghman Lee  
Sugarland Lane  
Poolesville Vicinity  
301-972-8454  
By George McDaniel

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	__INVENTION			

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This two story, frame house is similar to those built for black landowners of the rural middle class near the turn of the 19th century. It is also significant that on this site stood the post office, operated by a trusted member of the community.

According to Tilghman Lee, Nathan Johnson married Mary Dorsey, Basil Dorsey's daughter. Basil owned the property south of the church and almost adjacent to this tract. Thus, this community of Sugarland, was closely bound by the ties of kinship as well as by those of neighborliness.

Deed JA 6/234 shows that Nathan Johnson purchased this tract of 3 acres from P. Augustus Webb and Anna Webb and the Sitlers in 1885.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse  
Oral interview, Tilghman Lee

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87 Stronghold

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~  
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~  
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~  
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

NAME: Nathan Johnson.

EXSUS: 1900 Montgomery County

PAGE: 6 E

AGE/D.O.B.: Dec. 1854

OCCUPATION: Postmaster

WIFE: Mary - Apr. 1865

CHILDREN: Willie A. - Mar. 1886

Sarah M. - Feb. 1887

Henry C. - Mary 1890

Lloyd W. - Feb. 1894

PLACE OF BIRTH:

Mary - Washington D.C.

All Others - Maryland

SITE: p. 48 : NATHAN JOHNSON

LOCATION: Sugarland Road

OWNER'S NAME: Morris and Bertha Levin

ADDRESS: 10602 Amherst Avenue, Silver Spring Md. 20902

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

PROPERTY MAP: CR53

ACREAGE: 3.23

L/F:

HISTORY:

1) GRANTOR: H. Carolton and Lucille J. Hoskinson, Virginia Macdonald  
Verne O. and

GRANTEE: Morris and Bertha Levin

DATE:

ACREAGE: 3.23 ac

MISC.: L/F 540/285

2) GRANTOR: H. Carolton and Lucille J. Hoskinson

GRANTEE: J. Forest Walker, Treas. - county collector in  
the name of Nathan

DATE:

ACREAGE:

Johnson

MISC.: L/F JA 6/234

3) GRANTOR: P. Augustus and Anna A. Webb and Sillers

GRANTEE: Nathan Johnson

DATE: Feb. 28, 1885 ACREAGE: 3ac 28 sq. perches

MISC.:

NAME: John Johnson

CENSUS: 1900 Mont Co.

PAGE: ~~117~~ 6A

AGE/D.O.B.: May 1850

OCCUPATION: Farm Laborer

WIFE: Henrietta - Apr 1853

CHILDREN:

Ida D. - Jan. 1886

Mollie V. - May 1887

John H. Jr. - Jan. 1891

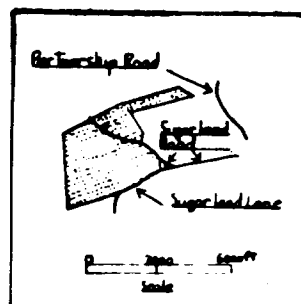
PLACE OF BIRTH:

All members - Maryland

probably related to Johnson  
family of Saganland since she was  
listed with Saganland community.

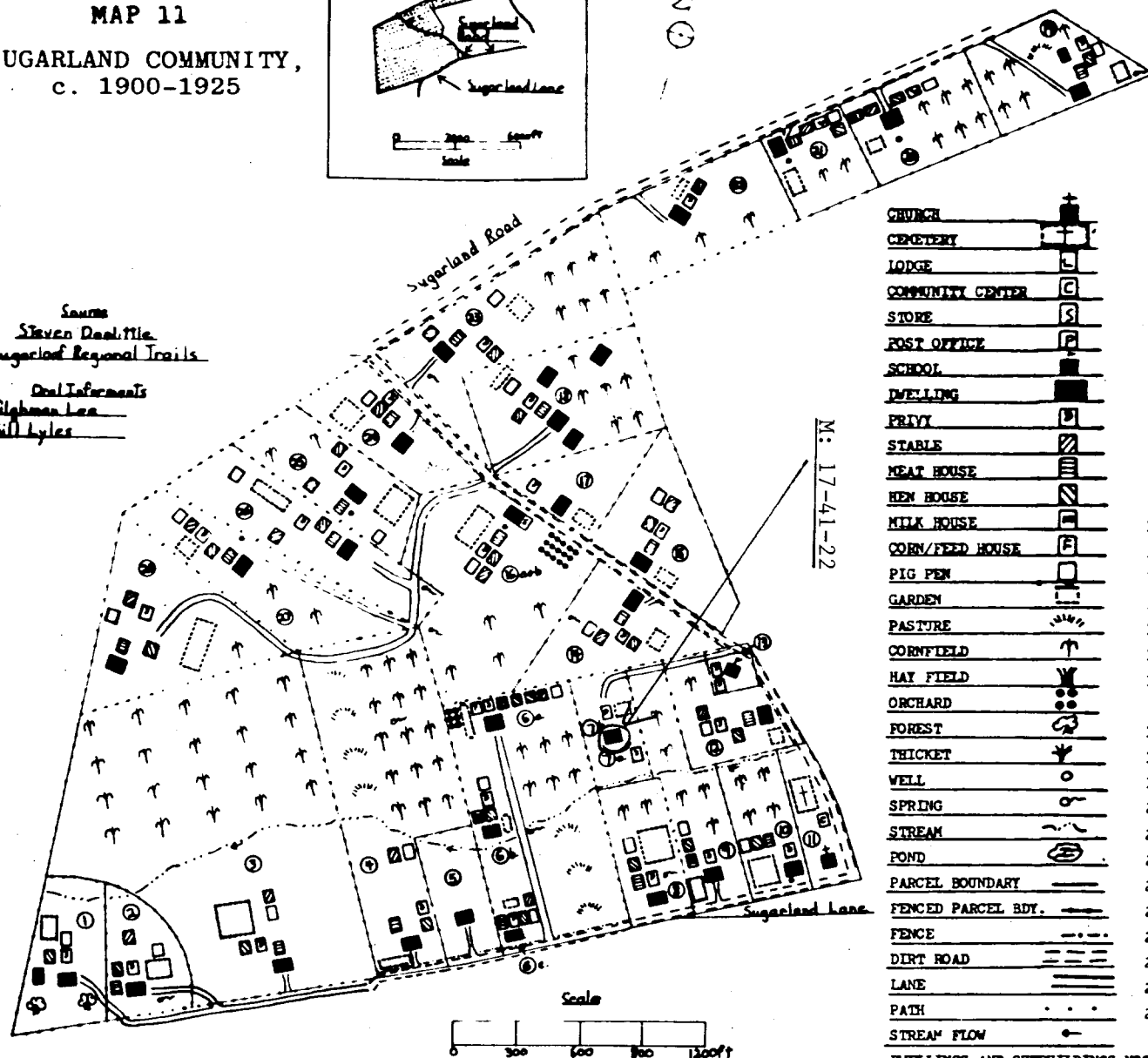


MAP 11  
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,  
c. 1900-1925



Source  
Steven Deal, M.A.  
Sugarland Regional Trails

Oral Informants  
Dighman Lee  
Bill Hyles



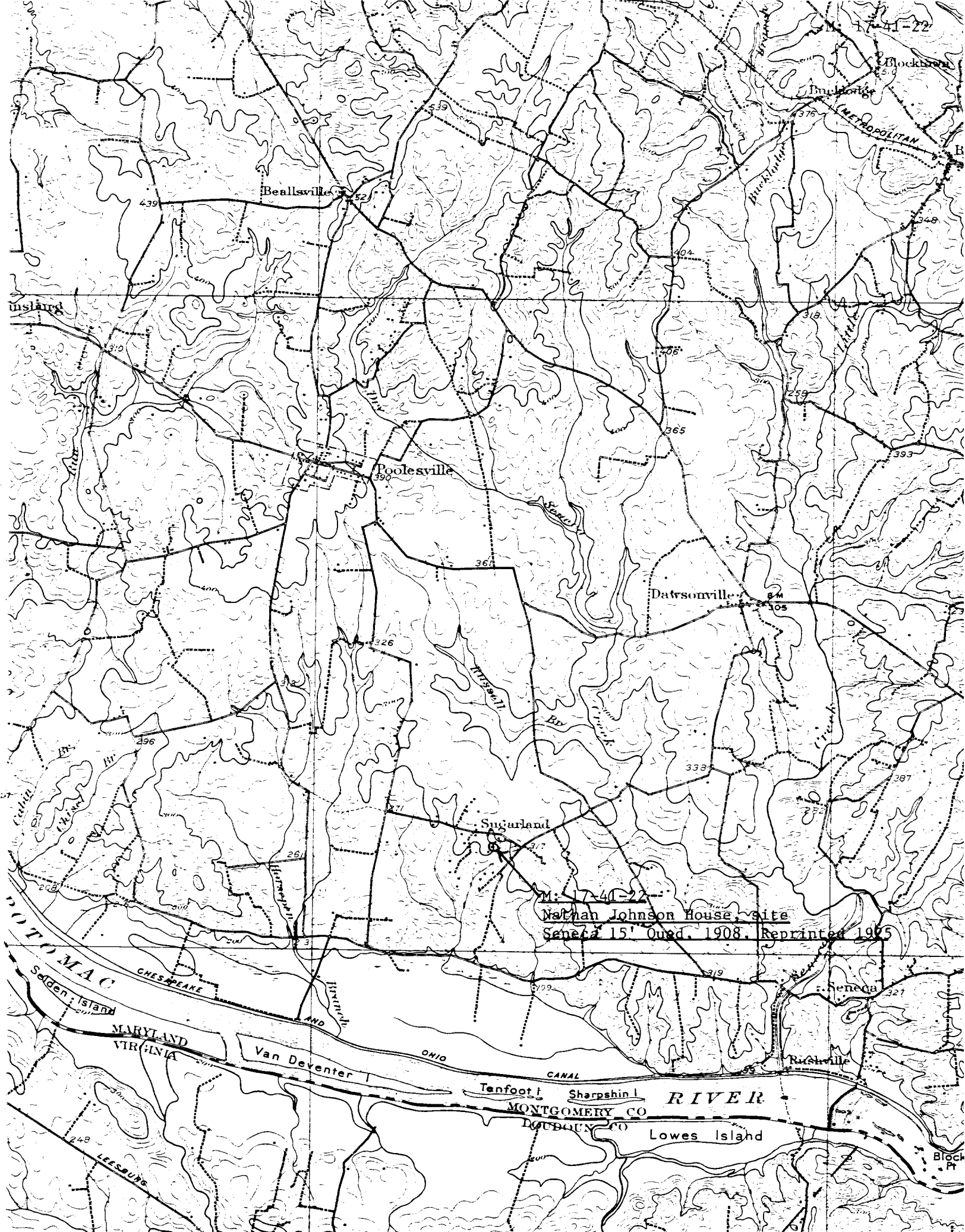
M: 17-41-22

Key

CHURCH	[Symbol]
CEMETERY	[Symbol]
LODGE	[Symbol]
COMMUNITY CENTER	[Symbol]
STORE	[Symbol]
POST OFFICE	[Symbol]
SCHOOL	[Symbol]
DWELLING	[Symbol]
PRIVY	[Symbol]
STABLE	[Symbol]
MEAT HOUSE	[Symbol]
HEN HOUSE	[Symbol]
MILK HOUSE	[Symbol]
CORN/FEED HOUSE	[Symbol]
PIG PEN	[Symbol]
GARDEN	[Symbol]
PASTURE	[Symbol]
CORNFIELD	[Symbol]
HAY FIELD	[Symbol]
ORCHARD	[Symbol]
FOREST	[Symbol]
THICKET	[Symbol]
WELL	[Symbol]
SPRING	[Symbol]
STREAM	[Symbol]
POND	[Symbol]
PARCEL BOUNDARY	[Symbol]
FENCED PARCEL BDT.	[Symbol]
FENCE	[Symbol]
DIRT ROAD	[Symbol]
LANE	[Symbol]
PATH	[Symbol]
STREAM FLOW	[Symbol]

- |                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. JAMES BECKWITH HSTD.       | 3.00 AC.  |
| 2. TILGHMAN BECKWITH HSTD.    | 4.00 AC.  |
| 3. JOHN ADAMS HSTD.           | 18.00 AC. |
| 4. LEWIS GARNETT HSTD.        | 14.00 AC. |
| 5. PETER JACKSON HSTD.        | 3.00 AC.  |
| 6a. PATRICK HEBRON HSTD.      | 17.00 AC. |
| b. LUKE HEBRON HSTD.          |           |
| c. ROBERT HEBRON HSTD.        |           |
| 7a. NATHAN JOHNSON HSTD.      | 3.00 AC.  |
| b. POST OFFICE                |           |
| 8. JOHN HIGGINS HSTD.         | 4.00 AC.  |
| 9. JOE CURTIS HSTD.           | 6.00 AC.  |
| 10. EASIL DORSEY HSTD.        | 4.00 AC.  |
| 11. ST. PAUL'S M.E. CHURCH    | 1.00 AC.  |
| 12. HORACE JACKSON HSTD.      | 2.00 AC.  |
| 13. SUGARLAND SCHOOL          | 1.00 AC.  |
| 14. SAM BEANDER HSTD.         | 6.00 AC.  |
| 15. THOMAS NICHOLS HSTD.      | 10.00 AC. |
| 16a. BENJAMIN SPARROUGH HSTD. | 14.75 AC. |
| b. SUGARLAND STORE            |           |
| 17. CHARLES JACKSON HSTD.     | 4.50 AC.  |
| 18. LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY HSTD. | 10.00 AC. |
| 19. WILLIAM TAYLOR HSTD.      | 3.00 AC.  |
| 20. LLOYD COATES HSTD.        | 4.00 AC.  |
| 21. SAMUEL JOHNSON HSTD.      | 4.00 AC.  |
| 22. JOHN DIGGS HSTD.          | 4.00 AC.  |
| 23. JOHN BRANISON HSTD.       | 11.00 AC. |
| 24. RAF BRANISON HSTD.        | 6.00 AC.  |
| 25. PHILLIP JOHNSON HSTD.     | 6.00 AC.  |
| 26. ISAAC BELL HSTD.          | 10.00 AC. |
| 27. SAMUEL LEE HSTD.          | 6.00 AC.  |
| 28. LEVI HALL HSTD.           | 10.00 AC. |

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE  
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY



STERLING QUADRANGLE  
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

M: 17-41-22

5562 III NE  
(GERMANTOWN)

